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PROSPECTS OF A GERMAN COLLAPSE OR SURRENDER  
(As of 25 August 1944)

Report by the Combined Intelligence Committee

THE PROBLEM

1. To review the principal factors bearing on German surrender or the collapse of German resistance and to estimate the form which such an event is likely to take and the time when it is likely to occur.

DISCUSSION

2. See Appendix.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

3. The German strategic situation is rapidly deteriorating and seems to contain no element which would justify a belief that the present trend can be reversed. This process is being accelerated by the general decline in Germany's war potential which can no longer be arrested.
3. The present German government, or any Nazi successor, is unlikely to surrender. Control by the Party appears strong enough to prevent governmental overthrow or internal disintegration prior to an extensive collapse of military resistance.
5. Although causes for collapse are undoubtedly present, the lack of visible symptoms indicates that German national life is still mobilized behind the war effort. This support is not likely to break down until the final military debacle is well advanced.
6. It seems probable that the form of collapse will